



JUN 28 2001

Mr. Brian Baird, Ocean Program Manager
Resources Agency of California
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, California 98514

Dear Mr. Baird:

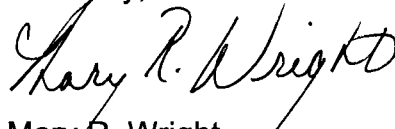
Resources Agency Policy on Coastal Erosion Planning and Response

Thank you for spearheading the effort to update the Resources Agency policy on coastal erosion planning and response. The draft policy addresses an important issue for California and the presentation of overarching principles and general guidance is useful. Of course, the utility of this policy will be tested when subordinate departments, commissions, and boards implement or apply it in the conduct of day-to-day coastal responsibilities.

I am pleased to tell you that California State Parks has been a leader in recognizing the need to be flexible in the face of powerful ocean wave erosion. We have been diligent in applying our own departmental Coastal Erosion Policy, which was adopted in 1984 and memorialized as a Departmental Notice in 1999. Between 1984 and 1999, all coastal unit general plans have included the department's coastal erosion policy. We have been a part of the Federal-State Coastal Sediment Management work group, encouraged and participated in SANDAG's beach nourishment program and have self-funded a number of coastal dune and bluff restoration projects. We have employed the use of setbacks, soft approaches, and "planned retreat," wherever possible all the while providing for the public's need for recreational facilities.

Syd Brown of DPR's Natural Resource Division has coordinated review of the draft policy with our coastal districts and key headquarters technical and policy staff. Detailed comments will be electronically transmitted, separately.

Sincerely,



Mary R. Wright
Chief Deputy Director

cc: R. Rayburn
N. Tilghman
D. Schaub
NRD Chron